

# **FONSI AND DECISION RECORD**

## **Upper and Middle Smith River II Restoration and Rehabilitation**

**EA OR-104-00-01**

### **SWIFTWATER FIELD OFFICE**

#### **Felling of Trees for In-stream Restoration**

An interdisciplinary (ID) team of the Swiftwater Resource Area, Roseburg District, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in coordination with the Coos Bay District BLM, has analyzed the proposed **Upper and Middle Smith River II Restoration and Rehabilitation** project work. This analysis was documented in EA # OR-104-00-01. This analysis covers pulling or felling of trees into streams and/or large wood placement in approximately 42 stream miles and is expected to provide benefits to water quality, fish and wildlife habitat.

#### **Decision:**

It is my decision to implement that portion of the Upper and Middle Smith River II Restoration and Rehabilitation EA that includes felling of trees into streams as shown on the attached map, *Upper and Middle Smith River Tree Felling*. These stream reaches all fall within the Roseburg District, Swiftwater Resource Area boundary. Approximately 57 trees have been identified and surveyed for felling in approximately 5 miles of stream. Funds are currently available to place them within these streams analyzed in the above mentioned, EA # OR-104-00-01.

#### **Finding of No Significant Impacts:**

Based on the analysis of the potential environmental impacts contained in the **Upper and Middle Smith River II Restoration and Rehabilitation** EA, we have determined that impacts from the listed projects above are in conformance with the Roseburg District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan, June 1995. The impacts from these projects are not expected to be significant, and an environmental impact statement is not required.

#### **Decision Rationale:**

The selected portion of the Proposed Action Alternative meets the objectives for lands in key watershed, the Matrix, Late Successional Reserve, and Riparian Reserve Land Use Allocations, and follows the principles set forth in the ROD for the Northwest Forest Plan (NFP), dated April 13, 1994 and the RMPs, dated May and June 1995.

A Letter of Concurrence has been received from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service concluding that the actions are "... not likely to adversely affect the continued existence of the spotted owl, murrelet, or bald eagle, and are not likely to adversely modify spotted owl or murrelet critical habitat."

A Biological Opinion has been received from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)

concluding that the actions are ". . . not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of OC [Oregon Coast] coho salmon, or destroy or adversely modify this species' designated critical habitat." The consultation is, "considered sufficient for EFH [Essential Fish Habitat] consultation."

The project design features (PDFs) for felling of trees are listed on pages 10-15 of the EA. Surveys in accordance with the *Record of Decision and Standard and Guidelines for Amendments to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines* have been completed on all selected trees.

The thirty day public review and comment period was completed on July 2, 2000. During the thirty day public review period, comments were received from Umpqua Watersheds, Inc. The substance of these comments expressed concerns about the potential of source large woody debris (LWD) coming from blow down areas in late successional reserves. The EA dealt specifically with the highest priority stream locations needing LWD placed in the stream and did not address the source of LWD. These streams were chosen as high priority because they also have the highest potential of creating quality habitat within the stream system for the above listed fish.

**Compliance and Monitoring:**

Monitoring will be conducted as per the guidance given in the ROD and the RMP.

**Protest Procedures**

As outlined in 43 CFR § 5003 Administrative Remedies, protests may be filed with the authorized officer within 15 days of the publication date of the Decision Notice in The News Review.

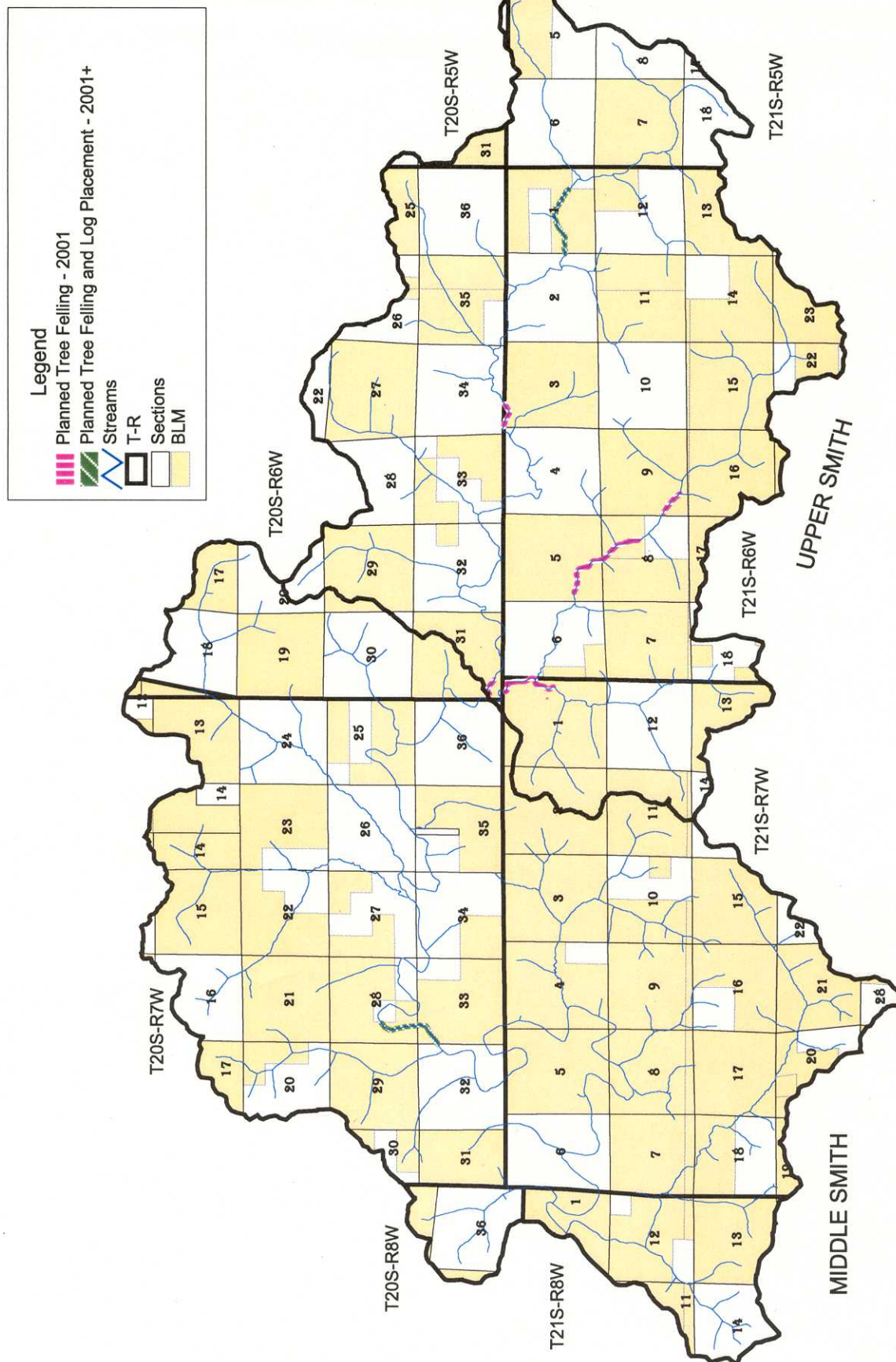
For further information, contact Jay Carlson, Field Manager, Swiftwater Resource Area, Roseburg District, Bureau of Land Management, 777 NW Garden Valley Blvd, Roseburg, OR 97470, (541) 440-4930.

  
Jay Carlson  
Swiftwater Field Manager

7/19/01  
Date



# Upper and Middle Smith River Tree Felling



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